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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Phadnis *et al*

Appl. No.: 09/910,937

Filed: 07/24/2001

For: Network Address Translation in a
Gateway

Art Unit: 2182

Examiner: Fleming, Fritz

Atty. Docket: CSCO-005/2899

Declaration by Inventors Under 37 CFR 1.131

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Amit S. PHADNIS, declare as follows:

1. I, Praneet BACHHETI and Anuradha KARUPPIAH (hereafter "we"), are co-inventors of claims 1-44 pending in the above-identified patent application.

2. Some time prior to April 26 2001, while employed by Cisco Systems, Inc., we conceived of a system, method and apparatus for network address translation in a service selection gateway, in which multiple NAT tables are used, with the address translation entries corresponding to a service domain being contained in a single NAT table. The conception of the invention is substantiated by the attached Exhibit A as follows.

3. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of a portion of document, prepared by us, entitled, "Network Address Translation in gateway", that demonstrates conception of the invention prior to April 26 2001. The actual dates of Exhibit A have been whited-out.

4. Exhibit A is a report generated by the web based patent process management system (CPOL) used by Cisco Systems Inc., our employer at the time the data forming the basis for the report was entered. CPOL system was used in several phases of the process, including, for inventors to submit ideas for consideration to apply for a patent. In particular, we had entered the data in the sections entitled, Background, Summary and Advantages at a time prior to April 26 2001 to facilitate the patent team to consider the technology for patenting.

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5. Field 'Seq No.: ' of Exhibit A has a value 2899, which is a number assigned by the CPOL system to uniquely identify the submitted ideas, and that number is also part of the attorney docket number in the instant application and the attached Exhibit.

6. The sections entitled, "Background", "Summary" and "Advantages" of Exhibit A, demonstrate that we had conceived of a system and method for a network address translation in a gateway at a time prior to April 26 2001.

7. During a time period from before April 26 2001 until at least July 24 2001 [the filing date of the present application], we diligently worked on preparing a patent application directed to the present invention as evidenced by Exhibits B, C, and D. These exhibits are cover letters attached to corresponding application copies (in draft or final form) received via electronic mail (email).

8. Specifically, on a day before April 26 2001, I received a first draft of the subject patent application by electronic mail (email) from our attorney, Mr. Naren Thappeta, as evidenced by attached Exhibit B. I reviewed the first draft and provided my comments. On June 12 2001, I received (again by email) a revised draft, as evidenced by Exhibit C. I provided comments on the revised draft. I received the application as approved for filing along with the declaration and assignment documents on June 27 2001, as evidenced by Exhibit D. I signed the declaration and assignment documents and sent them back to the Bangalore (India) Address of Mr. Thappeta in due course.

9. On July 24 2001, the present patent application was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and assigned Application Serial No. 09/910,937.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

June/July 8th July 2005
(Date)


Amit S. PHADNIS